

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03  
ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06  
TRSE-00 OMB-01 /071 W  
-----052339 041445Z /46

R 021522Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4860  
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
SECDEF WASHDC  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 5434

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR, IC, US, NO  
SUBJECT: ICELANDIC FOREIGN MINISTER RAISES KEFLAVIK TERMINAL QUESTION  
DURING OSLO VISIT

1. WESTERN EUROPEAN OFFICE DIRECTOR LANGAKER, IN DEC 1 CON-  
VERSATION WITH EMBOFF, PASSED ON COMMENT OF ICELANDIC FOREIGN  
MINISTER  
AGUSTSSON (IN OSLO FOR A NOV 30-DEC 2 OFFICIAL VISIT), CONCERNING  
THE KEFLAVIK BASE QUESTION. LANGAKER STATED  
THAT HIS ACTION SHOULD NOT BE CONSTTURED AS AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE  
ICELANDIC MINISTER'S VIEWS. THE GON, HE SAID, TOOK NO POSITION ON  
THE MATTER BUT WAS MERELY RELAYING THE COMMENT.

2. THE FONMIN, LANGAKER SAID, HAD LINKED THE QUESTION OF THE  
NEW TERMINAL CONSTRUCTION WITH THE NOW GROWING FEELING IN  
ICELAND THAT THE GOI SHOULD RECEIVE PAYMENT FOR USE OF  
THE KEFLAVIK BASE. THE FONMIN SAID THAT HE HIMSELF OPPOSED  
ICELAND'S ASKING FOR COMPENSATION FOR THE BASE BUT THAT A  
GOOD MANY PEOPLE IN ICELAND, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE RULING  
COALITION, NOW BELIEVED THERE SHOULD BE COMPENSATION FOR  
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THE KEFLAVIK INSTALLATION. THE MINISTER OBSERVED THAT,  
SHOULD THE USG AGREE TO BUILD THE TERMINAL IN QUESTION,  
THE BASE PAYMENT QUESTION WOULD, IN ALL PROBABILITY, BE  
DEFUSED.

3. THE MINISTER ALSO SAID THAT HE HOPED THAT THE UPCOMING  
NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING COULD ADDRESS THE KEFLAVIK BASE

QUESTION. HE DID NOT SPECIFY THE EXTENT OR NATURE OF SUCH NATO INVOLVEMENT.

4. EMBOFF ASKED IF IT HAD BEEN LANGAKER'S IMPRESSION THAT THE ICELANDIC MINISTER HAD WANTED THIS SENTIMENT RELAYED TO THE EMBASSY. LANGAKER REPLIED THAT THE MINISTER HAD NOT INDICATED THAT SUCH WAS THE CASE, BUT ADDED THAT AGUSTSSON WAS WELL AWARE OF THE CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND THE U.S. EMBASSY.

5. LANGAKER SAID THAT, ASIDE FROM THE KEFLAVIK TERMINAL QUESTION, THERE HAD, THUS FAR, BEEN VERY LITTLE OF BROADER INTERESTED ARISING FROM THE VISIT.  
BREMER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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